

Appn. No.: 10/517,182
Amendment Dated: March 7, 2008
Reply to Office Action of: December 28, 2007

MAT-8637US

Remarks/Arguments:

In the Amendment filed October 9, 2007, Applicants' inadvertently left out the limitation of "a server identification storing step of storing a server identifier of the server device, in the access device." Applicants have added this limitation back into claim 14 and are showing this limitation as a new limitation.

Claims 12-18 are pending and stand rejected.

By this Amendment, claims 12 and 14 are amended.

No new matter has been added by the claim amendments. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the original specification and, for example, in the original specification at page 27, lines 5-25.

Rejection of Claims 12-18 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, at item 3, claims 12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,043,532, hereafter referred to as "Humpleman").

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 12

Claim 12 is directed to an electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server device having operation information, and recites:

... the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device, transmitting the locator of the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device.

That is, the server device transmits the locator of the electronic device responsive to a condition (i.e., that the access device is permitted to access the electronic device).

Humbleman Reference

Humbleman discloses that to locate the Home Network Object Request Broker (HNORB) 79, and Interface Library (IL) 80, an access device 14 sends a broadcast message over the local home network. Once the HNORB&IL is located, the access device 14 and the HNORB&IL can establish a point-to-point Transmission Control and Protocol (TCP) or User Datagram Protocol (UDP) connection for registration, interface request and fetch, and device lookup services. (See Humbleman at col. 16, lines 54-62.) Humbleman further discloses that the HNORB&IL may be provided as a middleware layer 98 for the home network 10 and can be located in a third device 96 or in a separate control hub. (See Humbleman at col. 16, lines 27-32.) Humbleman, however, is silent regarding access device 14 or third device 96 providing any type of access control. Instead, Humbleman discloses an apparatus for universally accessible command and control information in a network. (See the title of Humbleman.) Moreover, a database in Humbleman is used to store interface description objects for home devices for communication with other home devices over the network. Humbleman contemplates that such a database is provided "for universal access by network devices." (See Humbleman at col. 3, lines 1-8.) That is, Humbleman contemplates universal access to the interface description objects (interface information) in the database for any network device and, more particularly, does not contemplate the transmission of a locator of the electronic device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device. This is reinforced by the disclosure in Humbleman that the attribute data table which includes the Device Address Value (i.e., corresponding to the locator recited in claim 12) is available to other devices 14 on the network 10 to facilitate interoperability. (See Humbleman at col. 9, lines 39-46.) Humbleman is silent regarding any condition (permission) for providing the device address values to other devices 14.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 12 patentably distinguishes over Humbleman for at least the above-mentioned reasons.

Claim 14

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Claim 14, which includes similar but not identical features to those of claim 12, is also submitted to patentably distinguish over Humpleman for at least similar reasons to those of claim 12.

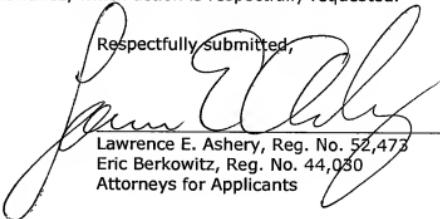
Claims 13 and 15-18

Claims 13 and 15-18, which include all of the limitations of claim 12 or claim 14, are also submitted to patentably distinguish over Humpleman for at least the same reasons as claim 12 or claim 14.

Conclusion

In view of the claim amendments and remarks, Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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